

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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Adults Say No to Minor Decoys in San Luis Obispo County Enforcement Operation

(North San Luis Obispo County) – Investigators from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and Deputies from the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Department conducted a program called a Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation that resulted in no arrests in the unincorporated areas of northern San Luis Obispo County.

During the operation, 15 adults were contacted by a minor decoy and all of those who were contacted refused to illegally buy alcohol for the minor decoy.

The Decoy Shoulder Tap program targets adults who purchase alcohol for people less than 21 years of age. Under the program, a minor under the direct supervision of a peace officer will stand outside a liquor or convenience store and ask patrons to buy them alcohol. The minor indicates in some way he or she is underage and cannot purchase the alcohol. If the adults comply, the peace officers arrest and cite them for furnishing alcohol to the minor.

The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1,000 fine and 24 hours of community service. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency.

ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Dale E. Bonner.